

Message Text

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63

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 OMB-01 ACDA-05 AID-05 /090 W

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R 021613Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1890

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

USLO PEKING

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMCONSUL MILAN

AMCONSUL NAPLES

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 9548

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, IT, KN

SUBJECT: NORTH KOREA SEEKS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ITALY

1. IN STRICT CONFIDENCE, ACTING CHIEF OF THE MFA'S EAST ASIA POLITICAL DESK (UNGARO) HAS TOLD US THAT THE NORTH KOREANS SENT A NOTE TO THE ITALIAN EMBASSY IN PAKING ABOUT ONE MONTH AGO PROPOSING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. IN THEIR NOTE THE KOREANS EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO SEND A MISSION TO ROME FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THE SUBJECT. ACCORDING TO OUR CONFIDENTIAL

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SOURCE, ALL THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE EC NINE, WITH THE

EXCEPTION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND IRELAND, RECEIVED
SIMILAR APPROACHES.

2. THE MFA HAS INSTRUCTED THE ITALIAN EMBASSY IN PEKING
TO INFORM THE NORTH KOREANS THAT ITALY IS NOT OPPOSED IN
PRINCIPLE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS
PROVIDED THAT THE NORTH KOREANS CAN GIVE ASSURANCES THAT
THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES WILL ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS
WITH SOUTH KOREA. THE ITALIANS UNDERSTAND THAT THE OTHER
EC COUNTRIES GAVE SIMILAR REPLIES WITH THE EXCEPTION OF
THE DUTCH WHO INDICATED THAT THEY ARE PREPARED TO ESTABLISH
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS RPOVIDING THAT THE NORTH KOREANS WILL
SUPPORT MEMBERSHIP FOR THE TWO KOREAS IN THE UNITED NATIONS.

3. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, OUR SOURCE STATED THAT AFTER
CONSIDERABLE DELAY, THE ITALIANS AND THE NORTH KOREANS WILL
BE SIGNING A COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT IN MOSCOW THIS MONTH.
(TEXT WAS POUCHED TO EA/K IN MARCH.) VOLPE

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